Remarks

Claims 1, 9-11, 19, 25-27, 66 and 68 have been amended and claims 28-46, 52-60, 62-65 have been canceled. Review and reconsideration in light of the amendments and the comments below are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 9-11, 19, 25, 26, and 68 have been amended to address the objections thereto. Claims 25 and 27 have been amended to correct various typographical errors therein.

Claim 26 is rejected, and claim 65 is indicated to include allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 65, and claim 65 has been canceled. The dependency of claim 66 has been amended to accommodate the cancellation of claim 65.

The remaining rejected or withdrawn claims have been canceled. Thus, it is submitted that the application is in a condition for allowance, and a formal notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicant reiterates its request included in its Amendment of May 27, 2004. In particular, Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement on November 26, 2001, a copy of which is enclosed. A copy of the postcard indicating receipt of the IDS by the Office is also enclosed. However, applicant has not received an initialed copy of the citation sheet indicating consideration of the references, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should copies of any of the cited references (specifically, the cited papers) be required.

In addition, it is noted that the first Office action included a copy of Japanese Patent JP 59-188176 (with an English abstract). However, this reference was not listed on the PTO Form 892 (Notice of References Cited). Issuance of a supplemental PTO Form 892 citing this Japanese patent is requested.

The applicant(s) hereby authorizes the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3) to treat any paper that is filed in this application which requires an extension of time as incorporating a request for such an extension. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any

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additional fees required by this paper or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0809. In the event that the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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